

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (currently amended) A digital data processing apparatus, comprising:

a communicating unit configured to communicate with an external device;

a receiving unit configured to receive digital data from a recording medium or through the communication unit, and to use the received digital data by employing use permission data;

a memory in which use history information of the digital data has been stored; and

a controller configured (i) to automatically send the use history information to the external device through the communication unit when an accumulation of uses of the digital data reaches a preset value and (ii) to inhibit ~~+~~

~~wherein the receiving unit is inhibited from one of the use of and an operation of the use permission data, while the controller is sending the use history information to the external device.~~

Claim 2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (previously presented) The digital data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the digital data are one of audio data, video data, still image data, character data, computer graphics data, game software, and a computer program.

Claim 4. (currently amended) A digital data processing apparatus, comprising:

a communicating unit configured to communicate with a settlement center;

a receiving unit configured to receive digital data from a recording medium or an external device, and to use the received digital data by employing use permission data;

a memory in which use history information of the digital data has been stored; and

a controller configured (i) to automatically send the use history information to the settlement center through the communication unit when an accumulation of uses of the digital data reaches a preset value and (ii) to inhibit +

~~wherein the receiving unit is inhibited from one of the use of and an operation of the use permission data, while the controller is sending the use history information to the settlement center.~~

Claim 5. (previously presented) The digital data processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the digital data are one of audio data, video data, still image data, character data, computer graphics data, game software, and a computer program.

Claims 6-40. (canceled)

Claim 41. (currently amended) A data reproducing terminal apparatus comprising:

a signal processing unit for performing a signal process necessary for reproduction of content data read from a medium, the content data being encrypted or compressed;

a communicating unit configured to communicate with an ~~external~~ element;

a memory unit in which reproduction history data of the content data are written; and

a control unit configured (i) to automatically send the

reproduction history data to the exterior element through the communication unit when the reproduction history data written in the memory unit reach a predetermined value, and (ii) to +

~~wherein the control unit inhibits the signal process by the~~
signal processing unit from performing the signal process, while the control unit is sending the reproduction history data to the exterior element.

Claim 42. (previously presented) The data reproducing terminal apparatus according to claim 41, further comprising a display unit, wherein the display unit displays a message for urging a user to send the reproduction history data to the exterior element when the reproduction history data written in the memory unit reach the predetermined value.

Claim 43. (canceled).

Claim 44. (canceled)

Claim 45. (currently amended) A data processing terminal apparatus comprising:

a communicating unit configured to communicate with an ~~external~~ element;

a memory unit in which reproduction history data are written, the reproduction history data being transferred from a reproducing unit for performing a reproducing process of content data read from a medium, the content data being encrypted or compressed; and

a control unit configured (i) to automatically send the
reproduction history data to the exterior element through the communication unit when the reproduction history data written in the memory unit reach a predetermined value, and (ii) to +

~~wherein the control unit inhibits the writing of the reproduction history data into the memory unit, while the control unit is sending the reproduction history data to the exterior element.~~

Claim 46. (previously presented) The data processing terminal apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the control unit sends the reproduction history data stored in the memory unit when the control unit receives data regarding an electronic monitoring permission from the exterior element, the data regarding an electronic monitoring permission being used for reproducing the content data.

Claim 47. (canceled)

Claim 48. (previously presented) The data processing terminal apparatus according to claim 45, further comprising a display unit, wherein the display unit displays a message for urging a user to send the reproduction history data to the exterior element when the reproduction history data written in the memory unit reach the predetermined value.

Claim 49. (previously presented) The data processing terminal apparatus according to claim 48, further comprising a second display unit, wherein the second display unit displays an indicator, the indicator changes the length of a predetermined color part in accordance with an amount of available space of the memory unit.

Claim 50. (previously presented) The data processing terminal apparatus according to claim 49, further comprising a warning display unit for displaying that the reproduction

history data written in the memory unit have reached the predetermined value.

Claim 51. (canceled).

Claim 52. (previously presented) The data processing terminal apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the control unit sends the reproduction history data to the exterior element at a preset date.

Claims 53-64. (canceled)